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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany/Russian Zone

DATE:

SUBJECT Political Personalities and Parties in Saxony

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1. Informant describes the president of the State Administration of Saxony, Dr. Friedrich, a member of the SED (formerly SPD), as virtually without any power. The real power in the state administration is the First Vice President Fischer. Fischer is described as an old Communist who emigrated in 1922-1923 to Russia, from where he returned to Germany only in 1945 in the wake of the Red Army. In Russia he was supposed to have attended a Marxian university and to have become entirely Russian. He also married a Russian woman. Fischer is now about 55-60 years old. His special departments in the government are interior and education.
2. Fischer's right hand man is Träger, Chief of Personnel of the State Administration. He is described as a veteran of the Spanish Civil War who, after the defeat of the Loyalists, fled from Spain to Russia. He also returned to Germany with the Red Army in 1945.
3. Vice President Fritz Selbmann is the next in influence to Fischer. In the current negotiations for the constitution of the state government, the CDU and the LDP vigorously oppose the re-appointment of Fischer and Träger. Meanwhile, Selbmann, who is described as an ardent Communist but efficient and competent, is virtually assured of re-election.
4. Informant described in great detail the increasing conflict within the SED in which former SPD members oppose former members of the KPD. The SPD group is said to hold regular informal meetings at which they not only discuss their tactics within the SED but also make plans for the re-establishment of an independent party organization and the taking over of certain political offices.
5. Informant is convinced that the Russians, whom he credits with a widespread and efficient espionage service, are fully aware of this development but have not, to the best of his knowledge, thus far intervened. Informant believes that the Russians are disappointed with the SED and might very well tolerate the re-establishment of the SPD.
6. Public campaigning against the Russians has greatly increased within the last two months as a result of dismantlings and deportations. Informant pointed out that workers who had always been favorably disposed toward the Soviet Union now voice their outspoken criticism. The results of the Berlin election last October seem to have greatly encouraged the opposition.
7. Zeigner, the Oberbürgermeister of Leipzig, who had always been on the extreme left wing of the Social Democratic Party, is said to have become uncertain of his position.

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